

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A method of diagnosing an equipment (2) to be inspected, in which a communications module (1) associated with the equipment (2) to be inspected reads operating data relating to the equipment (2) to be inspected and forwards the data to a remote server (3, 5a, 5b, ..., 5n), and the remote server (3, 5a, 5b, ..., 5n) performs a diagnosis on the basis of the operating data it receives, the method being characterized by the fact that:

- an intermediate server (3) determines which from amongst a plurality of specialized assistance servers (5a, 5b, ..., 5n) is the server that is appropriate for the equipment (2), and puts the communications module (1) into communication with the specialized assistance server (5a, 5b, ..., 5n) that is adapted to the equipment (2); and

- the communications module (1) transmits the operating data concerning the equipment (2) to the specialized assistance server which performs the diagnosis.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, in which an adjustment step is provided during which the remote server (3, 5a, 5b, ..., 5n) transmits adjustment orders for repairing the equipment (2) to the equipment (2) via the communications module (1).

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, in which a local diagnosis step is provided that is performed by the communications module (1), and that is

followed, when the equipment (2) can be repaired by the communications module (1), by an adjustment step during which the communications module (1) transmits adjustment orders to the equipment (2).

4. (Currently amended)      A method according to claim 2 ~~or claim 3~~, in which, when the equipment (2) cannot be repaired by the communications module (1), an information notification step is provided during which the communications module (1) provides a user either with information to enable the user to repair the malfunction, or information to the effect that repair of the malfunction requires the intervention of a repair service.

Claims 5-6: (Cancel).

7. (Currently amended)      A method according to claim 4 ~~5 or claim 6~~, in which there are provided three levels of diagnosis and adjustment, or if adjustment is not possible, of information notification, the levels being designed to be implemented one after another respectively by the communications module (1), by the intermediate server (3), and by the specialized assistance server (5a, ..., 5n)and

in which, after performing a diagnosis at level N, another diagnosis is performed at the next higher level N + 1 in the event of neither of the two steps of adjustment or information notification being performed at level N.

Claims 8-13: (Cancel).

14. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, in which, on detecting an emergency event relating to the equipment (2) to be inspected, the communications module (1) makes a priority connection to a "black box" server (8) and transmits data relating to the equipment (2) to be inspected thereto.

15. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1, in which the communications module reads a distinctive characteristic of at least one element of the equipment and transmits the characteristics to the remote server.

16. (Original) A diagnosis system for diagnosing an equipment to be inspected, for implementing the method of claim 1, the system comprising a diagnosis server (3, 5a, 5b, ..., 5n) and a communications module (1) associated with the equipment (2) to be inspected, which server and module are connected to each other via a communications network (6, 7), the communications module (1) being arranged to transmit operating data concerning the equipment (2) to the server (3, 5a, 5b, ..., 5n), and the server (3, 5a, 5b, ..., 5n) being arranged to make a diagnosis on the basis of the operating data concerning the equipment (2), the system being characterized in that there are provided a plurality of specialized assistance servers (5a, 5b, ..., 5n) suitable for making diagnoses and an intermediate server (3) arranged to determine which from amongst the plurality of specialized assistance servers (5a, 5b, ..., 5n) is the server appropriate for the equipment (2), and suitable for putting the communications module (1) into communication with the appropriate specialized assistance server in order to cause a diagnosis to be made relating to the equipment (2).

Claims 17-18: (Cancel).

19. (Currently amended) A system according to claim 16 ~~or claim 17~~, in which, when the equipment to be inspected is an emergency vehicle, the intermediate server (3) is arranged to direct the emergency vehicle to an emergency center associated with the specialized assistance server appropriate for the equipment (2); and

in which, for an emergency vehicle including at least one medical appliance for monitoring a patient and connected to the communications module (1), the communications module (1) is arranged to collect operating data supplied by the medical monitoring appliance and corresponding to vital data concerning the patient, and is arranged to transmit said data to said specialized server (5a, 5b, ..., 5n), and said specialized server (5a, 5b, ..., 5n) is arranged to monitor the state of the patient remotely.

Claims 20-27: (Cancel).

28. (Original) A communications module for implementing the method of claim 1, the module comprising collector means (11) arranged to read operating data relating to an equipment (2) to be inspected and means (17) for sending the operating data to a remote server (3, 5a, 5b, ..., 5n), the module being characterized in that it is provided with means (13) for detecting an emergency event relating to the equipment (2) to be inspected and then, on detecting such an emergency event, for making a priority connection with a "black box" server (8) and

transmitting thereto a stream of data conveying data relating to the equipment (2) to be inspected.

Claims 29-32 (Cancel).